It could not be said of early 20th-century Toronto, as it could of late 17th-century London, that "so many who went out of their senses were never brought before a magistrate or confined" (232). Porter describes an 18th-century pattern of increasing intervention and confinement, though not yet on a large public scale. The inmates of the Toronto Asylum were aware of its public character, in ways that sometimes profoundly affected both the course of the behaviour that brought them there, and their perception of where they were. Some patients were merely amused by the blatant abuse of the Asylum for the worst sort of pork-barrel patronage, but others were seriously disturbed. In "Those Cruel Tories and Dr. Herriman," one Mr. O'Mally (who suffered from alcoholism and was in out and of the Asylum from 1910 till his death in 1917) mockingly describes the effect on staff and patients of the transfer of one of the doctors to the Orillia Asylum in 1910, apparently as a result of the liberals losing a recent by-election. After commiserating with Dianah, the "laundry wench," he points out to her the felicity of sending Dr. Herriman to Orillia (an Asylum for Idiots) where

> He'll be more among his own
>
> For his [sic] partly idiot himself
>
> So 'twill be to him like "home."[cxxxix]

Miss Coral, a 40 year old Anglican nurse admited "voluntarily" on July 21, 1913, after getting fired (she claimed) for resisting her employer's sexual advances, worried that the doctors who examined her had been appointed by the same officials who had denied her justice -- including (of course) the Provincial Secretary and his Inspectors. Miss Coral gradually became convinced that she had been black-listed by a combination of government and government-run professionals. She died on April 14, 1914 of what Dr. Forster told her father was "toxaemia," but which he admitted in a letter to Inspector Dunlop was suicide -- a massive overdose of alcohol that she took "feeling that her future was hopeless." It is interesting to reflect that, as in the case of Mrs. Brown above, no one entertained for a moment the possibility that her allegations might have had some basis in reality. She was just another case of "Paranoid D.P."[cxl]